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17 May 2004
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/936,538 Confirmation No.: 7147
Applicant : Seiichi Tagawa, et al.
Filed : September 13, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1772
Examiner : Jane J. Rhee
Docket No. : 6404-0003WOUS
Customer No. :

Hartford, Connecticut, May 17, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to a non-final Office Action dated February 17, 2004, having a period of response set to expire on May 17, 2004, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are provided on page 2 of the present response.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this response.

Appendix A is an English Translation of Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 6-171012 is attached following page 8 of the present response.

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PTO/SB/97 (08-03)

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